

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A system for facilitating the exchange of data between a user and a web
2 service via instant messaging client, comprising:
3 a processor that receives and processes a user command from an instant
4 messaging client and generates a web service command corresponding to the user
5 command;
6 a database that stores information linking the user command to a web service
7 command format; and
8 a web services engine that sends the web service command to the web service.
- 1 2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the web services engine
2 receives a message from the web service in response to the web service command.
- 1 3. The system according to claim 1, wherein the web services engine used to
2 locate a web services description language file.
- 1 4. The system according to claim 1, wherein the web services engine
2 retrieves a web service address.
- 1 5. The system according to claim 1, wherein the web services engine
2 retrieves the web service command format.
- 1 6. The system according to claim 1, wherein the processor links the user
2 command to a web service description language file.
- 1 7. The system according to claim 1, wherein the processor links the user
2 command to the web service and the web service command format.

1 8. The system according to claim 1, wherein the database stores user
2 information, the user information comprises at least one of user identification and user
3 password.

1 9. The system according to claim 1, wherein the database stores user
2 privileges information.

1 10. The system according to claim 1, wherein the information linking the user
2 command to a web service command format stored in the database comprises a web
3 services description language file location.

1 11. The system according to claim 1, wherein the information linking the user
2 command to a web service command format stored in the database comprises the web
3 service's address.

1 12. The system according to claim 1, wherein the information linking the user
2 command to a web service command format stored in the database comprises a web
3 service description language file name.

1 13. The system according to claim 1, wherein the processor uses the
2 information linking the user command to a web service command format stored in the
3 database to generate the web service command.

1 14. The system according to claim 1, wherein the web service is associated
2 with an enterprise system.

1 15. The system according to claim 1, wherein the web service is associated
2 with a legacy system.

1 16. The system according to claim 1, further comprising a security and
2 provisioning engine, the security and provisioning engine retrieves security information.

1 17. The system according to claim 16, wherein the security information
2 having user privileges information.

1 18. The system according to claim 17, wherein the user information is for
2 accessing at least one of enterprise and legacy systems.

1 19. The system according to claim 1, wherein the system interfaces a remote
2 database including user security information.

1 20. The system according to claim 19, wherein the remote database including
2 the user security information includes a directory that has information relating to user
3 privileges.

1 21. A method that facilitates the exchange of data between one or more users
2 and one or more web services via one or more instant messaging clients, comprising the
3 steps of:

4 receiving a user command from an instant messaging client;

5 linking the user command to a web service command format, the web service
6 command format associated with a web service;

7 generating a corresponding web service command based on the web service
8 command format; and
9 sending the generated corresponding web service command to the web
10 service.

1 22. The method according to claim 21, wherein linking of the user command
2 to a web service command format comprises linking the user command to a web service
3 description language file.

1 23. The method according to claim 21, wherein linking of the user command
2 to a web service command format comprises locating the web service's address.

1 24. The method according to claim 23, wherein the web service address is a
2 URL address.

1 25. The method according to claim 21, further comprising receiving a
2 message from the web service.

1 26. The method according to claim 25, wherein the message received from the
2 web service is a response message.

1 27. The method according to claim 25, further comprising sending the
2 message from the web service to the one or more users.

1 28. The method according to claim 21, wherein the web service is associated
2 with an enterprise system.

1 29. The method according to claim 21, wherein the web service is associated
2 with a legacy system.

1 30. The method according to claim 21, further comprising storing user
2 information.

1 31. The method according to claim 30, wherein the stored user information
2 includes user command information is for at least one of the users.

1 32. The method according to claim 31, wherein the stored user command
2 information stored for the at least one of the users includes information linking the user
3 command to the web service command format.

1 33. The method according to claim 21, further comprising parsing security
2 information to determine a user's access rights to the web service.

1 34. The method according to claim 33, wherein the security information is
2 stored in a database.

1 35. The method according to claim 34, wherein the database having a
2 directory including information relating to user privileges for accessing enterprise or
3 legacy systems.

1 36. A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a
2 program of instructions executable by a machine to perform method steps of exchanging
3 data between a user and a web service via an instant messaging client, the method steps
4 comprising:

5 receiving an instant messaging message created using an instant messaging
6 client;
7 identifying a web service description language file associated with the instant
8 messaging message;
9 identifying a web service listed in the web service description language file
10 that is linked to the instant messaging message; and
11 sending a web service message that is associated with the instant messaging
12 message to the web service according to information provided in the web service
13 description language file.

1 37. The program storage device according to claim 36, wherein the web
2 service message having a web service command.

1 38. The program storage device according to claim 36, further comprising
2 receiving a message from a web service.

1 39. The program storage device according to claim 38, wherein the message
2 from the web service is in response to the web service message.

1 40. The program storage device according to claim 38, wherein the message
2 from the web service is forwarded to one or more users.

1 41. The program storage device according to claim 36, further comprising
2 storing user information.

1 42. The program storage device according to claim 36, wherein the web
2 service is associated with at least one of an enterprise system and a legacy system.

1 43. The program storage device according to claim 36, wherein the instant
2 messaging message comprises a user command.

1 44. The program storage device according to claim 36, wherein the web
2 service is associated with at least one of an enterprise system and a legacy system.

1 45. A system for facilitating the exchange of data between an instant
2 messaging client and a web service, comprising:

3 a message processor means, the message processing means for
4 receiving and processing a user command from the instant messaging client
5 and generating a corresponding web service command based on the user
6 command;

7 a storage means for storing information that links the user command to
8 format of the corresponding web service command ; and

9 a communication means for accessing a web services description
10 language file.

1 46. The system according to claim 46, wherein the communication means for
2 communicating with the at least one web service.

1 47. The system according to claim 46, wherein the corresponding web service
2 command is generated by using the stored linking information that links the user
3 command to the format of the corresponding web service command.

1 48. The system according to claim 48, wherein the web service is associated
2 with at least one of an enterprise system and a legacy system.

1 49. The system according to claim 46, wherein the message processor means
2 for storing user privileges information.

1 51. The system according to claim 46, wherein the message processor means
2 for parsing user privileges information.

1 52. The system according to claim 46, wherein the system interfaces with a
2 database having security information.